

## Guide to the Evelyn Stuckey Papers

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Stuckey, Evelyn
<b>Title:</b>	Evelyn Stuckey Papers
<b>ID:</b>	MS-00265
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1940-1972
<b>Physical Description:</b>	5.92 Cubic Feet (10 boxes and 2 oversize boxes)
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7.21 Linear Feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	The Evelyn Stuckey Papers date from 1940 to 1972 and document Stuckey's experience as a physical education teacher at Las Vegas High School (LVHS) in Las Vegas, Nevada and founder of the LVHS Rhythmettes dance group. The collection contains personal and educational materials from Stuckey's college years, personal correspondence, and photographs. It also contains materials documenting the Rhythmettes' activities including travel plans, posters and fliers, news clippings, and group rosters.

### Preferred Citation

Evelyn Stuckey Papers, 1940-1972. MS-00265. Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Biographical Note

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Las Vegas High School (LVHS) teacher Evelyn Stuckey founded a dance troupe for girls at LVHS in 1949 and named them the Rhythmettes. The group went on to great success, appearing widely in Las Vegas and performing across the United States. Born (Mary) Evelyn Stuckey September 10, 1921 in Gordo, Alabama, she earned her B.S. degree from Florida State Women's College now Florida State University in 1946 majoring in Education with a concentration in Physical Education. Following graduation, she worked for two years for the Board of Health in Florida. She joined the faculty at Las Vegas High School in 1949 as the Physical Education instructor for female students. She remained a teacher at LVHS until she died of cancer on April 10, 1980.

At Las Vegas High School, she organized the Rhythmettes dance group for girls in 1949. The group became popular and made many public appearances promoting Las Vegas. The Rhythmettes appeared on the *Ed Sullivan Show* and at the 1964 World's Fair in New York. Stuckey disbanded the original Rhythmettes in June 1966 due to her ill health, but restarted the group in 1974 and remained their Director/Advisor until 1979.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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The Evelyn Stuckey Papers date from 1940 to 1972 and document her experience as a physical education teacher at Las Vegas High School (LVHS) in Las Vegas, Nevada and founder of the LVHS Rhythmettes dance group. The collection contains personal and educational materials from Stuckey's college years, personal correspondence, and photographs. It also contains materials documenting the Rhythmettes' activities including travel plans, posters and fliers, news clippings, and group rosters.

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## Arrangement

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These papers are organized into two series:

Series I. Personal and Educational Papers, 1940-1972;

Series II. Las Vegas High School Rhythmettes, 1950-1969.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

Collection is open for research.

### Publication Rights

Materials in this collection may be protected by copyrights and other rights. See [Reproductions and Use](#) on the UNLV Special Collections and Archives website for more information about reproductions and permissions to publish.

## Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in October 1986 by Cheryl Rogers; accession number 1986-056.

## Processing Note

Materials were processed by Gerry Evans in 1997. In 2017, Angela Moor revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

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## Related Materials

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### Separated Materials

Some of the photographs in this acquisition were removed from the collection and placed in Evelyn Stuckey Photograph Collection, 1935-1964. PH-00284. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Las Vegas High School
- Physical education and training--Nevada--Las Vegas--History
- Dance teams--Nevada--Las Vegas--History
- Photographs
- Rhythmettes (Las Vegas, Nev.) -- History

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## Collection Inventory

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### Series I. Personal and Educational Papers, 1940-1972

Physical Description: 2.30 Cubic Feet (5 boxes)

Physical Description: 2.08 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The Personal and Educational Papers series dates from 1940 to 1972 and contains college notes and papers of Stuckey, a college photograph album, her personal receipts and bills, and correspondence.

Arrangement: Materials remain in original order.

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Title/Description	Containers
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Bibliographies on various subjects from college, 1945	box 1
College papers: "Art," short story, "Strange as Seems," "The Victorian Period", 1944-1946	box 1
College papers, undated	box 1
Creative writing course materials, untitled, undated	box 1
Gas credit card receipts: American Express, Oil, Mobil Oil, Standard Oil Corp, 1966-1969	box 1
Gas receipts: Shell Oil Corp, 1966-1969	box 1
Gas receipts, Texaco Inc., 1962-1969	box 1
Bills and receipts, 1958-1973	box 1
Personal documents, 1962-1967	box 1
Pamphlets, programs, and brochures, 1958-1967	box 1
Miss Rodeo America, 1960-1972	box 1
News clippings about Stuckey, 1945-1959	box 2
News clippings, Stuckey personal, 1950-1965	box 2
Pilot Club International, 1948-1950	box 2
Teacher Association and Las Vegas High Faculty information, 1952-1967	box 2
Cards from individual Rhythmettes to Stuckey, 1957-1967	box 2
Letters from individual Rhythmettes to Stuckey, 1957-1971	box 2
Cards and letters from students and others to Stuckey, 1957-1971	box 2
Invitations to Stuckey from individual Rhythmettes and others, 1959-1972	box 2
Personal correspondence, 1947, 1949	box 2
Film pieces, undated	box 3
Personal memorabilia, 1940-1972 Physical Description: 2 Files	box 3
Bound college photo album, undated	box 3
Personal loose photos, undated	box 3
Physical Education materials	
Archery, undated	box 4
Badminton and Schuffle Board, undated	box 4
Basketball, undated	box 4
College papers about Physical Education, undated	box 4
Dance, undated	box 4

Golf, undated	box 4
Internship, undated	box 4
Physical Education course materials, 1945-1963	box 4
Physical Education Alumni Newsletter, Florida State University, 1946-1961	box 4
Physiology Laboratory Manual, Florida State College, undated	box 5
Reaction games and storytelling, undated	box 5
Safety materials, undated	box 5
Soccer and Speedball, undated	box 5
Student Rosters, Las Vegas High School, 1967	box 5
Swimming, undated	box 5
Teaching Guide Physical Education (Girls) Las Vegas Union School District, undated	box 5
Tennis, undated	box 5
Tumbling, undated	box 5
Volleyball, undated	box 5

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## Series II. Las Vegas High School Rhythmettes, 1950-1969

Physical Description: 3.62 Cubic Feet (4 boxes, 2 oversize boxes)

Physical Description: 5.13 Linear Feet

Scope and Contents Note: The Las Vegas High School Rhythmettes Series contains materials from 1950 to 1969 and documents the founding of the Rhythmettes, their local appearances, travel plans for out-of-state appearances, group rosters and try-out information, and scrapbooks of clippings about the group.

Arrangement: Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Correspondence and Events, 1952-1960 Physical Description: 8 Files	box 5
Correspondence: Pikes Peak Rodeo, 1960	box 6
Correspondence: Great Falls, MT State Fair, 1961	box 6
Correspondence and Events, 1961-1969 Physical Description: 6 Files	box 6
Planning materials for Rhythmette Trip to New York Worlds Fair, binder, 1964	box 6
World's Fair clippings, correspondence, menus, and brochures, 1964	box 6

Physical Description: 2 Files

Address cards of former Rhythmettes, undated	box 7
Articles on Stuckey and the Rhythmettes, 1955, 1958	box 7
Student Essays "How Have I Prepared Myself for Rhythmettes?", 1957-1959	box 7
Physical Description: 2 Files	
Fantasy in Review: planning documents, undated	box 7
History: documents describing Rhythmettes' history, undated	box 7
Letters of Recommendation by Stuckey for Rhythmettes, undated	box 7
Lists and Rosters, undated	box 7
Magazine insert about Rhythmettes in Magazine Las Vegas, 1951 November 01	box 7
Rhythmettes correspondence and notes, undated	box 7
Maps, road, undated	box 7
Receipts, 1955-1968	box 7
Performance materials: music and verse to multiple songs, undated	box 7
"Official Candidate" Release Forms, 1964	box 7
Peer Evaluations, 1958	box 7
Questionnaires: Students and Faculty, part of Rhythmette try-out process, undated	box 7
Rehearsal Schedules, undated	box 7
Evelyn Stuckey, "A Report on the Position of the Rhythmettes as an Educational Medium in the Las Vegas High School", 1956	box 7
International Dance Spectacular with Rhythmettes and Brigham Young University International Folk Dancers, 1966	box 7
Rhythmette Constitution, undated	box 8
"Rhythmette Revue" materials, 1952-1964	box 8
"Rhythmette Revue": Name lists, undated	box 8
"Rhythmette Revue": Scripts, 1954-1964	box 8
"Rhythmette Revue": Stage direction notes/other preparations, undated	box 8
Scripts, undated	box 8
Sketches and formation, undated	box 8
Stuckey, Notes on Rhythmette grades and attendance, undated	box 8
Stuckey, Notebook/day books, 1955-1963	box 8
Stuckey, Notebooks, undated	box 9
Try-out Evaluation sheets, undated	box 9



Photos: Rhythmettes, undated Physical Description: 3 Files	box 9
News clippings, 1950-1957 Physical Description: 7 Files	box 9
News clippings, 1958-1967 Physical Description: 9 Files	box 10
News clippings: Former Rythmettes, 1958-1962	box 10
News clippings, undated	box 10
Oversize scrapbook pages containing clippings about the Rhythmettes, 1953-1958	box 11
Oversize scrapbook pages about the Rhythmettes, performance posters, 1954-1967	box 12
Rhythmette Revue Inserts (Review-Journal), 1958-1965	box 13

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